

#17

Atty. Dkt. No. 062834-0104

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

George Harry Hoffman, et al.

Title:

SYSTEM, METHOD AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR USE OF BAR CODES IN A SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Appl. No.:

09/815,580

Filing Date:

03/23/2001

Examiner:

Ahshik Kim

Art Unit:

2876

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

## TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

## **RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

An English translation of the foreign-language document is not readily available. However, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §608). An English Abstract is attached for document A22.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated,

otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

William T. Ellis

Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 26,874

Date June 2, 2003

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|       | Substitute for  | form 1449B/ | PTO      | ·                      | Complete if Known    | 18 E VO          |
| !     | INFORMATIO      | N DISCLO    | SURE     | Application Number     | 09/815,580           | (O) 3)           |
|       | STATEMENT       | BY APPLI    | CANT     | Filing Date            | 03/23/2001           | 2 2003 S         |
|       | Date Submitte   | ed: June 2  | 2003     | First Named Inventor   | George Harry Hoffman |                  |
|       |                 | -           |          | Group Art Unit         | 2876                 | \ <u>\*</u>      |
|       | (use as many sh | eets as ne  | cessary) | Examiner Name          | Ahshik Kim           | Am OCH           |
| Sheet | 1               | of          | 2        | Attorney Docket Number | 062834-0104          | THANKS TRANSPORT |

| Examiner<br>Initials* |                          | U.S. Patent D | Ocument                                 | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Data of Bublication of                                 | Pages, Columns, Lines                                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
|                       | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Number        | Kind<br>Code <sup>2</sup> (if<br>known) |                                                 | Date of Publication of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       | A1                       | 4,713,761     | 1                                       | Sharpe et al.                                   | 12-15-1987                                             |                                                          |
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| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> |    |              |   | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Documents | Date of Publication of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear | Т6 |
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|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                       | A23                      | Information on Deal Time International, 1998-2002                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                |

| Examiner  | Date       |  |
|-----------|------------|--|
|           | Date       |  |
| Signature | Considered |  |
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Skind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 (08-00)

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|                 | INFORMATIO      | ON DISCLO     | SURE     | Application Number     | 09/815,580           | \ <u>\</u>   |
|                 | STATEMENT       | BY APPLI      | CANT     | Filing Date            | 03/23/2001           | UIN 0 2 2202 |
|                 | Date Submitt    | tod: Juno 2   | 2002     | First Named Inventor   | George Harry Hoffman | JUN 0 3 2003 |
|                 | Date Submit     | ieu. Julie 2, | 2003     | Group Art Unit         | 2876                 | 1.0          |
|                 | (use as many si | heets as ne   | cessary) | Examiner Name          | Ahshik Kim           | TE CALL      |
| Sheet           | 2               | of            | 2        | Attorney Docket Number | 062834-0104          | 3 TRADES     |

|                       | NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                |  |  |  |
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| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No.¹                    | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>6</sup> |  |  |  |
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.